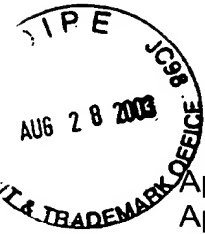


8/ Reg Ext
time (1m)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : WATSON et al.
Appl. No. : 09/975,317
Filed : October 12, 2001
Title : METHOD

Confirmation No: 8178

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TC/A.U. : 1616
Examiner : M. HARTLEY

Docket No.: : WATS3001C/REF
Customer No: : 23364

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants request that the period for response to the outstanding official action in this case be extended pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) for ONE (1) month to September 1, 2003.

The fee set in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(1) for a one month extension of time is \$110.00 and a check in this amount is submitted herewith. Please charge any additional fee required for this extension to Deposit Account No. 02-0200. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

By: Richard E. Fichter
Richard E. Fichter
Registration No. 26,382

625 Slaters Lane, 4th Fl.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: (703) 683-0500
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REF:kdd
EXT-LRG.EX1.wpd

August 27, 2003